

Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

DA 08-522

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Re: WJHL-TV, Johnson City, Tennessee

Application for Renewal of License File No. BRCT-20050401BYS, et al.

Dear Counsel:

This is in regard to the applications for renewal of license filed by Media General Communications Holdings, LLC ("Media General") for stations: WJHL-TV, Johnson City, Tennessee, File No. BRCT-20050401BYS; WBTW(TV), Florence, South Carolina, File No. BRCT-20040802BIK; WRBL(TV), Columbus, Georgia, File No. BRCT-20041201BZP; WMBB-TV, Panama City, Florida, File No. BRCT-20040101AQF. An informal objection, petition to deny and/or motion to dismiss was filed against each of the applications. For the reasons stated below, we dismiss the informal objection, petitions to deny and motions to dismiss and grant the renewal applications.

In each application, Media General requested a waiver of the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership ("NBCO") rule, 47 C.F.R. § 73.3555(d)(3), to permit the continued joint ownership of the relevant television station and a local daily newspaper in the same designated market area (DMA). In each case, these waivers were opposed. This issue, however, has been rendered moot by the Commission's 2007Ownership Order. In that Order, the Commission

¹ 2006Quadrennial Regulatory Review—Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review—Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996; Cross-Ownership of Broadcast Stations and Newspapers; Rules and Policies Concerning Multiple Ownership of Radio Broadcast Stations in Local Markets; Definition of Radio Markets, Ways to Further Section 257 Mandate and To Build on Earlier Studies; and Public Interest Obligations of TV Broadcast Licensees, MB Dockets 06-121, et al., FCC No. 07-216 (rel. February 4, 2008)("2007 Ownership Order").

granted permanent waivers to Media General in each of the four DMAs at issue here to permit the joint ownership of the television station named in the application and a specified local daily newspaper.²

Having reviewed the renewal applications and the pleadings, we conclude that the stations have, during their license terms, served the public interest, convenience, and necessity, and have not committed any serious violations of the Communications Act or the Commission's rules, or any pattern of violations that, taken together, would constitute a pattern of abuse.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED, that the informal objections, petitions to deny and/or motions to dismiss of the NAACP, Free Press, and Common Cause of South Carolina filed against the applications for renewal of license of stations WJHL-TV, Johnson City, Tennessee, File No. BRCT-20050401BYS; WBTW(TV), Florence, South Carolina, File No. BRCT-20040802BIK; WRBL(TV), Columbus, Georgia, File No. BRCT-20041201BZP; WMBB-TV, Panama City, Florida, File No. BRCT-20040101AQF ARE DISMISSED, and that the applications ARE GRANTED.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Kreisman Chief, Video Division Media Bureau Federal Communications Commission

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 $^{^{2}}$ *Id* at ¶ 77 and fns. 253-6.